

(b) Amendment to the Claims

Kindly amend claims 1, 6, 9 and 12-22.

The following is a complete listing of the claims in this application, reflects all changes currently being made to the claims, and replaces all earlier versions and all earlier listings of the claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus comprising:  
a movable member;  
a roller ~~contacted to~~ in contact with said movable member,  
said roller having an elastic layer comprising a foam ~~contacted to in~~  
contact with said movable member,  
said elastic layer having an ion electroconductivity and having a  
hardness of not less than 20° and not more than 50°, wherein the hardness and a density of  
said elastic layer satisfy  $(\text{hardness} / \text{density}) \geq 65$ ,  
wherein the hardness is an Asker-C hardness of a material of said  
elastic layer cut out into a thickness of 4.0 mm under a weight of 500g applied to the  
material.
2. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said  
movable member is an image bearing member.
3. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said  
movable member is a transfer material.

4. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said movable member is a transfer member for carrying a transfer material.
5. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said roller electrically charges said movable member.
6. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein a surface of said roller ~~contacted to~~ in contact with said movable member has been abraded.
7. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said elastic layer does not exhibit a bridging density change by illumination with ultraviolet radiation.
8. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said elastic layer has been produced using a thiuram type vulcanization promoter.
9. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein ~~said elastic layer uses an~~ azodicarbonamide is employed in foaming process to produce the elastic layer.
10. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said elastic layer comprises epichlorohydrin-ethylene oxide rubber as a main material.

11. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said elastic layer comprises acrylonitrile butadiene rubber as a main material.

12. (Currently Amended) A roller ~~contactable to~~ for contacting a movable member, comprising:

an elastic layer comprising a foam provided on a surface layer;  
said elastic layer having an ion electroconductivity and having a hardness of not less than 20° and not more than 50°, wherein the hardness and a density of said elastic layer satisfy  $(\text{hardness} / \text{density}) \geq 65$ ,

wherein the hardness is an Asker-C hardness of a material of said elastic layer cut out into a thickness of 4.0 mm under a weight of 500g applied to the material.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~An apparatus~~ A roller according to Claim 12, wherein said movable member is an image bearing member.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~An apparatus~~ A roller according to Claim 12, wherein said movable member is a transfer material.

15. (Currently Amended) ~~An apparatus~~ A roller according to Claim 12, wherein said roller electrically charges said movable member.

16. (Currently Amended) ~~An apparatus~~ A roller according to Claim 12, wherein said movable member is a transfer member for carrying a transfer material.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~An apparatus~~ A roller according to Claim 12, wherein a surface of said roller ~~contacted to~~ for contact with said movable member has been abraded.

18. (Currently Amended) ~~An apparatus~~ A roller according to Claim 12, wherein said elastic layer does not exhibit a bridging density change by illumination with ultraviolet radiation.

19. (Currently Amended) ~~An apparatus~~ A roller according to Claim 12, wherein said elastic layer has been produced using a thiuram vulcanization promoter.

20. (Currently Amended) ~~An apparatus~~ A roller according to Claim 12, wherein ~~said elastic layer uses~~ an azodicarbonamide in foaming process is employed to produce the elastic layer.

21. (Currently Amended) ~~An apparatus~~ A roller according to Claim 12, wherein said elastic layer comprises epichlorohydrin-ethylene oxide rubber as a main material.

22. (Currently Amended) ~~An apparatus~~ A roller according to Claim 12,  
wherein said elastic layer comprises acrylonitrile butadiene rubber as a main material.